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Isabel Hull

"Imperial German Warfare: Colonial or European?"

Thursday, May 10, 2007

3:30 p.m.

Mershon Center for International Security Studies
1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201

Co-sponsored by the departments of [History](#) and [Germanic Languages and Literatures](#).

See a [streaming video](#) of this event. This streaming video requires RealPlayer. If you do not have RealPlayer, you can [download it free](#).

Isabel Hull is the John Stambaugh Professor of History at Cornell University, where she has taught since 1977.

Hull is author of *Absolute Destruction: Military Culture and the Practices of War in Imperial Germany* (Cornell University Press, 2004), which won the Ralph Waldo Emerson Book Award given by Phi Beta Kappa for scholarly studies that make significant contributions to interpretations of the intellectual and cultural condition of humanity. It also received the German Studies Association's DAAD Book Prize for Outstanding Book in History and Political Science.

In *Absolute Destruction*, Hull argues that the practices and routines of the Imperial German Army, unchecked by civilian institutions, increasingly aimed for absolute destruction of the enemy as the only guarantee of the nation's security. The deeply imbedded logic of "military necessity" was the impetus for extreme destruction of civilian property and lives. The book is called a cautionary tale for today with serious implications for the nature of warmaking in any modern power.

Hull is also author of *Sexuality, State and Civil Society in Germany, 1700-1815* (Cornell University Press, 1996), which the American Historical Association selected as the most outstanding work in English on 17th- and 18th-century European History, and the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians named as best history book that year written by a woman.



Isabel Hull
John Stambaugh
Professor of History
Cornell University

Hull has held fellowships from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the German Academic Exchange Service and the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, among others. She holds a B.A. from University of Michigan, and a Ph.D. from Yale.

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